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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark Guy Trowbridge)
For: AIR SPRING UPPER)
RETAINER)
Serial No. 10/009,695)
Filed: November 6, 2001)

Confirmation No. 1290
Docket No. DN1999119USA
Art Unit: 3683
Examiner: Benjamin A. Pezzlo
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on Jan 29, 2003
(Date of Deposit)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Nancy T. Krawczyk
(Name of Registered Representative)
[Signature] 1.28.03
(Signature) (Date of Signature)

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 21, 2003, please amend the above identified patent application without prejudice as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 1 to 3 with the following amended claims 1 to 3.

Sub C1
[Signature]

1. (Twice Amended) An air spring (1) for absorbing and transmitting shock loads between parts moveable relative to one another, the air spring (1) comprising a flexible cylindrical sleeve (2) which is secured at each end to form a fluid chamber (14) therein, a piston (11), the sleeve (2) being secured at one end (6) to a retainer (8) and being secured at the opposing end (9) by the piston (11), the air spring being characterized by:

the retainer (8) having an intermediate ribbed reinforcement structure (16) to strengthen the retainer, allowing for direct mounting of the air spring (1) to one of the moveable parts, the intermediate ribbed reinforcement structure (16) of the retainer (8) comprising an outer plate (18) and an inner plate (19) which are parallel to each other, and a plurality of ribs (17 to 20) that extend between the outer plate (18) and the inner plate (19).

not recommended
for entry
2/12/03
Entry
Not
Approved
AS
Recommended
2/12/03